

A
B I L L

TO

Amend the Law for the Relief of the Poor in Ireland in A.D. 1876.
respect to rating and chargeability on Poor Law Unions.

WHEREAS under the provisions of the Act passed in the session of Parliament held in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the more effectual Relief of the destitute Poor in Ireland," and of the several Acts altering, amending, or affecting the same (in this Act referred to as "the Poor Law Acts"), it is provided that the board of guardians of every union should cause accounts to be kept of the expense incurred in respect of the persons relieved in any work-house within such union (in this Act referred to as "indoor relief expenses"), and that such accounts should be made up at the end of every six calendar months; and that the board of guardians should charge against each electoral division at the end of such period the proportion of indoor relief expenses which should appear to have been incurred in respect of every person so relieved who shall be chargeable to such electoral division; and that in making any rate necessary for defraying the expenses incurred in the execution of the said Acts, the guardians of every union should have due regard to the amount which shall, in manner aforesaid, have been ascertained to be chargeable upon any electoral division in respect of its proportion of the indoor relief expenses during the period to which the last account of such expenses shall extend:

And whereas it is expedient to amend the Poor Law Acts, so far as they relate to chargeability and rating, in the manner by this Act provided:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as The Poor Law Rating (Ireland) Act, 1876.

[Bill 156.]

A.D. 1876.

Construc-
tion.Expenses of
deaf-and-
dumb, and
blind, to be
charged
upon union.Limitation
of rate upon
electoral
divisions in
certain cases.

2. The Poor Law Acts as amended by this Act and this Act shall be construed together.

3. The expenses incurred by the guardians of any poor law union in Ireland in respect of the maintenance of any destitute poor deaf and dumb or blind person in the workhouse, and in the conveyance of any destitute poor deaf and dumb or blind person to any deaf and dumb or blind asylum, and of the maintenance therein of any such person, shall be borne by and charged against the whole union.

4. The guardians of a poor law union, when making any rate for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred by them in the execution of the Poor Law Acts, shall have regard to the following provisions:—

The sum to be charged upon any electoral division in respect of its proportion of the indoor relief expenses under the Poor Law Acts as amended by this Act shall in no case exceed the amount which would be raised by a poundage rate, limited in manner herein-after prescribed, upon all the hereditaments rated to the relief of the poor in such electoral division; and any further moneys necessary to make up the amount chargeable against such electoral division in respect of such indoor relief expenses shall be borne by and be charged against the whole union:

Such poundage rate, in the case of any electoral division forming part of a union in which the average union rate does not exceed eightpence, shall not exceed *one shilling*, and in the case of any electoral division forming part of a union in which the average union rate does exceed eightpence shall not exceed the average union rate together with one half of such average union rate:

The term "average union rate" in this section shall at the time of the making of any rate be taken to mean the poundage rate upon the several hereditaments rated to the relief of the poor in such union which would be necessary for raising the amount then required to defray the indoor relief expenses chargeable against the several electoral divisions constituting such union, if the same, instead of being so chargeable as aforesaid, were charged against the whole union.

Provision for
revision of
valuation of
union in
certain cases.

5. Where in any poor law union any moneys which, but for the provisions of the last preceding section of this Act, would have been charged against any electoral division have, in pursuance of the provisions of the said section, become chargeable against

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the whole union, and the guardians of such union represent to the Local Government Board that such chargeability has been caused by reason of the valuation of the hereditaments rated to the relief of the poor in such electoral division being unduly low when compared with the valuation of the hereditaments rated to the relief of the poor in the other electoral divisions forming part of such union, then and in every such case the Local Government Board shall report such representation to the Lord Lieutenant, and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Lord Lieutenant to direct the Commissioner of Valuation to make a general revision of the valuation of any such poor law union, and thereupon the Commissioner of Valuation shall proceed to make a revision of the valuation of such poor law union in the manner prescribed by and subject to the provisions of the Acts relating to the valuation of rateable property in Ireland for the time being in force with respect to the revision of the valuation of poor law unions by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and all the provisions of the said Acts shall apply to any revision made under the authority of this Act.

6. For the purpose of carrying this Act into effect, the books and accounts of the several poor law unions in Ireland shall be kept, and all other necessary acts shall be done by the guardians of the several poor law unions and their officers, in such manner and form in all respects as the Local Government Board shall by order from time to time prescribe.

Local Government Board to prescribe mode of carrying Act into effect.

**Poor Law Rating
(Ireland).**

BILL

To amend the Law for the Relief of the
Poor in Ireland in respect to rating
and chargeability on Poor Law
Unions.

*(Prepared and brought in by
Sir Michael Hicks Beach and
Mr. Seakins-General for Ireland)*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
18 May 1876.*

[Bill 156.]

Under 1 oz.